Kottarakara where there were many Ganaka families. If that was not possible, a grant might be allowed to the Patasala at Koippalli Karanma, which was in existence for the last 27 years.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

VII. EDUCATION.

105. Introduction of certain changes in the Education Department.

Mr. R. Narayana Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Kuzhittura) expressed satisfaction that the educational needs of the people of all classes were receiving the sympathetic and prompt attention of the Dewan and that the instructions issued to the authorities in the matter of admission to the Arts College proved a real blessing to many a son of the soil who otherwise would have had to stop studies. He then referred to the difficulties of the students for the School Final Examination from the present mysterious and unsatisfactory system followed in moderating the marks and awarding certificates and requested that the scheme might be examined with a view to revise it suitably. He then urged the necessity of greater attention being paid to the number and choice of the text-books for each class, those containing objectionable passages being ordered to be scrupulously rejected. The Member next pleaded that drill, as it obtained at present in Girls' schools, should not be enforced in the case of grown-up girls and that the curricula of studies for girls should be modified in view to make them more practical and useful to them.

More money was being spent in increasing the Inspecting staff of the Vernacular Education Department than was necessary. An effective reduction could be made in the number of Assistant Inspectors. There was a complaint that the curriculum of studies for the Vernacular Higher Examination was too high and that the students had to get through a very large number of subjects. It would be a relief, if candidates who failed in one subject were again permitted to appear in that subject alone.

In regard to Elementary education, though it was a matter for regret that Mr. P. K. Kesava Pillai's Bill was rejected by the Legislative Council, the people were glad that, during the present administration, the principle of the Bill was being followed in extending Elementary education as far as possible. He, however, objected to the present practice of requiring the people to put up buildings for schools and equip them and requested that the entire expenditure on that account might be borne by the Government.

Dewan's reply.—In regard to drill, the Director of Public Instruction has issued instructions to stop drill in the case of grown-up girls. Even in the case of other girls, the drill is conducted only in the presence of women teachers and it is not open to public view. In the matter of the superfluity of the supervising staff, Government are unable to agree with the Member's view. The other points are noted.

106. Suggestions for remedying certain defects in the present working of the Education Department.

Mr. P. Sankara Pillai (Member, Karunagapalli taluk) made the following suggestions for improving the condition of education in the State:—

1. Sanskrit should be made a compulsory subject from the 3rd class upwards in all Vernacular schools, as a fair knowledge of that language was necessary to speak and write good Malayalam.

2. The system of teaching English as an optional subject in the 5th and 6th classes in Vernacular schools should be revised in view of the fact that some knowledge of English had become absolutely necessary in all walks of life.

3. A circular had recently been issued by the Director of Public Instruction to the effect that girls should not be given admission into Boys' schools in places where there were Girls' schools also. The Member said that it led to much hardship, as Girls' schools were not so widely distributed as Boys' schools and it had become

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